

FORM NO. 35-85
NOV 1951

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

17 JAN 53



DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 2528
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

IN S 29730

29730-A - Check

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BONN

PRIORITY

ACTION: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1920Z 19 JAN 53

INFORMATION: FI, FI/OPS, FI/PLANS, FI/STC, FI/RQM 3, PP/PYD 2, SR 2, WE 2, EE 2,

NR: 3910 3310

CONTROL: 6514

SENT DEPARTMENT 3910, REPEATED LONDON 654, PARIS 893

ACCORDING TO BRITISH PRESS RELEASE, ARREST OF SEVEN EX-NAZIS BY BRITISH AUTHORITIES WAS MADE TO ASCERTAIN TO WHAT EXTENT THEIR ACTIVITIES NOW CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO SECURITY OF ALLIED FORCES. BRITISH INTELLIGENCE REPORTS CLAIM THAT PERSONS ARRESTED WERE ALL BAD ACTORS WHO HAD WIDE CLANDESTINE CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER RIGHTIST GROUPS AND WERE, IN PARTICULAR, INCREASING THEIR INFLUENCE IN RIGHT WING OF FDP.

BRITISH CHANCERY STATES IN RECENT MONTHS ACTIVITIES OF GROUP HAVE BEEN CONCENTRATED ON THREE MAIN OBJECTIVES.

(1) INFILTRATION OF MODERATE RIGHT-WING PARTIES, AND IN PARTICULAR SECURING POSITIONS IN THOSE PARTIES FOR PERSONS LOYAL TO GROUP.

(2) THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF NEO-NAZI PROPAGANDA THROUGH A WIDESPREAD AND WELL-PLACED NETWORK OF NAUMANN'S FORMER SUBORDINATES.

(3) MAINTENANCE OF ADVISORY CONTACT WITH OVERT EXTREME RIGHT-WING GROUPS AND EX-SERVICEMEN'S LEADERS REVIEW OF OUR BIOGRAPHIC FILES WHICH INCORPORATE ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM BRITISH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES SHOW THAT FOR MORE THAN A YEAR BRITISH HAVE SENT IN INFORMATION ON NAUMANN, SCHEEL, AND KAUFMANN REPORTING THEIR EFFORTS TO INCREASE THEIR INFLUENCE IN RIGHTIST CIRCLES BUT NO (REPEAT NO) PREVIOUS MENTION HAS BEEN MADE IN REPORTS TRANSMITTED TO HICOG OF OTHER FOUR ARRESTED, ZIMMERMAN, HASELMAYER, SIEPEN AND SCHARPING. SIEPEN'S RELATIVELY UNIMPORTANT STATUS IN ANZI PARTY INDICATED BY FACT HE WAS ONLY AN ORTSGRUPPENLEITER.

TYPE OF INFILTRATION CARRIED ON BY THIS GROUP OF ESTABLISHED RIGHTIST PARTIES ESPECIALLY FDP SEEMS TO US POSSIBLE LONG-RANGE THREAT

FOR COORDINATION WITH State



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TO DEMOCRATIC GERMANY. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NOT (REPEAT NOT) YET RECEIVED INFORMATION TO INDICATE PROCESS OF INFILTRATION HAS YET REACHED STAGE WHERE ACTION OF EXTREMISTS COULD THREATEN PRESENT SECURITY OF ALLIED FORCES IN GERMANY. WORKING LEVELS OF BRITISH INTELLIGENCE NOT (REPEAT NOT) FORTHCOMING CONCERNING SPECIFIC GROUNDS FOR ACTION. IN THIS CONNECTION, SEE LONDON TELEGRAM 3887* STATING THAT ACCORDING TO BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE BRITISH WERE NOT (REPEAT NOT) IN POSSESSION OF OF EVIDENCE "WHICH LENDS ITSELF TO PROSECUTION".

ACTION APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN DESPITE STIR BRITISH MUST HAVE KNOWN IT WOULD CREATE BOTH IN GERMANY AND ABROAD, PRIMARILY TO FORESTALL ANY INCREASE IN INFLUENCE OR STRENGTH OF GROUP AND TO ENABLE BRITISH TO QUESTION MEMBERS AS TO POSSIBLE CONNECTIONS ABROAD AND SOURCE OF APPARENTLY AMPLE FUNDS. IT MAY ALSO BE THAT UK GOVERNMENT FOR DOMESTIC REASONS WISHES TO OBTAIN CREDIT FOR EXPOSING NAZI PLOT.

IN NOT (REPEAT NOT) ALLOWING GERMAN AUTHORITY TO TAKE ACTION UNDER OWN LAWS, IMMEDIATE IMPACT OF BRITISH ACTION HAS UNDOUBTEDLY BEEN TO DIMINISH PRESTIGE OF GOVERNMENT, PARTICULARLY IN THESE CIRCLES WHICH FOR PAST FEW MONTHS HAVE EXPRESSED GROWING CONCERN REGARDING ALLEGED INCREASE OF GERMAN NATIONALISM AND NEW-NAZISM.

SPD PROPAGANDISTS ARE MAKING FULL USE OF THESE ANGLES AND ARE PLAYING UP DANGER OF INFILTRATION BY NEO-NAZIS OF ALL PARTIES RIGHT OF SPD. PRIVATELY SEVERAL SPD LEADERS HAVE SUGGESTED THIS EXERCISE OF RESERVED POWERS IS PART OF A DELIBERATE POLICY OF ALLIES TO PUT PRESSURE ON BUNDESTAG TO SPEED RATIFICATION.

FDP DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, WIDDELHAUVE WHO BRITISH INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS STATE IS CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH NAUMANN ASSERTS COMPLETE INNOCENCE AND INDIGNANTLY PROTESTS BRITISH ACTION. FDP DEPUTY ACHENBACH WHO IS ACTING AS LEGAL COUNSEL FOR NAUMANN AND WHO, ACCORDING TO BRITISH, WAS ONE OF GROUP'S PRINCIPAL CONTACTS, SUGGESTED TO AMERICAN OFFICIAL YESTERDAY THAT ARRESTS WERE SLY BRITISH MOVE TO SABOTAGE FRENCH RATIFICATION OF EDC BY INFLAMING FRENCH APPREHENSIONS THAT GERMANY IS UNRELIABLE AND THAT EDC WOULD RESULT IN NEO-NAZI DOMINATION OF EUROPE.

GERMAN NEWSPAPERS QUESTIONING JUSTIFICATION OF BRITISH ACTION AND SUGGESTING BRITISH HAD ULTERIOR MOTIVES AIMING AT DISCREDITING FEDREP ABROAD AND RAISING QUESTIONS IN PARTICULAR ABOUT REASON FOR TIMING THIS ACTION. (SEE BONN TELEGRAM SENT DEPARTMENT 3909*, REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 653, PARIS 892).

REBER

*BONN 3887 DISTRIBUTED UNDER IN S 29062

*BONN 3909 DISTRIBUTED UNDER IN S 29729

ACTION: GER

INFO : SS, G, EUR, OLI, CIA, OSD, ARMY, AIR, NAVY, P, PSB, I

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